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VICK'S MAGAZINE.

Vol. 16.

ROCHESTER, N. Y., JANUARY, 1893.

No. 3



A NEW ASTER.

IN ITS many and various forms the garden aster is one of the most popular of the summer annuals. The cultivation of it has been so carefully and skillfully conducted that it has assumed some of the most remarkable and beautiful forms imaginable. Even within a few years great changes and variations have occurred which, by the florist's skill, have become fixed and perpetuated. What may yet be developed in this class of plants cannot be foreseen, though, doubtless, the changes which have already occurred are only the precursors of others as rare and desirable.

During the past year we came into possession of a new form of aster and successfully tested it. It is quite different from all other known types and has characteristics which are peculiarly desirable. The plant is a strong grower with abundant foliage, branches freely and produces its flowers in great abundance. The flowers are borne on long stems making them serviceable in a cut state; they are pure white, flattish in form, very large, four to five inches

in diameter, with long, broad petals, many of which are twisted and curved in the form of the best Japanese chrysanthemums to which the flowers are quite equal in all respects. The season of bloom is very late and at a time when there is a great scarcity of flowers; it is later than that of any other aster and before the chrysanthemum season comes in. This circumstance together with the beauty of the flowers on their long stems makes it a variety of special value to florists. We have called this variety the New White Branching Aster and can confidently recommend it as a valuable acquisition for florists and for amateurs who will want the cut flowers for vases and personal decoration.

When raised in considerable quantities, and it is desirable to prolong the season of this aster, the beds can be protected with frames if there is danger of frost. In this manner the blooms can be preserved in perfection to the last of autumn, and until the chrysanthemum season arrives. From the well known fact of the variability of asters other varieties of this style with colored flowers may be expected.

CAULIFLOWER SEED.

THE following well written and correct account of the difficulties incurred in raising some kinds of seeds, especially cauliflower, is copied from a late issue of the *Florist's Exchange*. It will give our readers some faint idea of the seedsman's troubles, and show how impossible it is for him always to be sure of the character of the seeds he deals in, notwithstanding all his efforts.

The variation of plants through climatic influences is more marked than is generally supposed. In fact, climatic conditions have more to do in changing the character of vegetable forms and properties than all other causes combined. This is instanced more frequently in the cauliflower than in any other vegetable, from the fact of its great importance to the seedsman, as well as to his customer, the market gardener. The former has more trouble with this than with all his other seeds, because, first, of its importance, and next of the uncertainty of the seed to produce the same results two years in succession. One year it may seem the best ever sown, the next it may be worthless. The cautious grower is in the habit of keeping two years' stock constantly on hand, in order to test this year the seed he intends using next. But this does not always prove satisfactory; at the same time it inspires in the grower a confidence in the seedsman he could not get in any other way. Let us state a little incident that came under our own observation to illustrate the facts stated in regard to a change in vegetable forms through climatic influences.

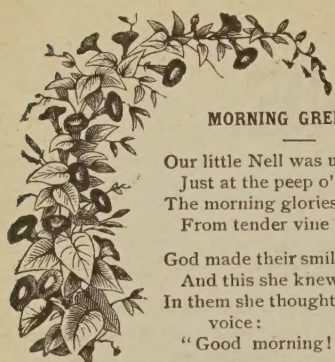
A few years since a Mr. C—— one of the first of the Long Island farmers to engage in the cauliflower industry, and one of the most successful, bought his usual two years' supply of seed, giving it the first year a fair trial, putting in about one-eighth of an acre, which proved entirely satisfactory. The next year his main crop was from the same seed, and the results were equally favorable. The year following another supply was laid in, but only a trial was made of the new stock, he having such unbounded confidence in the old; that year the new was all that could be desired, and the reliable stock of the two previous years was worthless.

Now what was the cause of this change? Simply the weather; the first two years were seasons of drought, and the third one of great moisture. In the latter the heads were all "leafy," which means that small leaves appear all through the heads, rendering them unfit for the market.

But, it may be asked, why should not the heads from the new seed have been worthless, the same as from the old? and that is one we cannot answer, because we do not know. That the age of the seed had nothing to do with the changing of these results we know full well, because we are familiar with instances where just the reverse has been the result. A stock that had proved worthless one year had been perfectly satisfactory the next.

Seeds grown under different climatic conditions are very different in their results when grown side by side far distant from where they had their origin. For instance, cauliflower seed grown in Holland has no superior for the English market, but is absolutely worthless in this country; that is, for market gardening purposes. Dutch seed will produce heads that eat well, but do not look well. They are "leafy" to that extent as to make them unsalable in the market.

We merely give these instances to show the difficulty the seedsman has in getting stocks that will always give satisfaction. So much depends upon causes other than selection; causes entirely beyond his control, that, however careful he may be, it is by no means certain that of some varieties sold entire satisfaction will be given. In closing this article let us say there is no merchant that has so many adverse circumstances to contend against; none so careful in the selection of his stocks; none more faithful to his trust; none more solicitous to please than a reputable, intelligent seedsman.



MORNING GREETING.

Our little Nell was up betimes
Just at the peep o' day,
The morning glories greeted her
From tender vine and spray.

God made their smiling faces all,
And this she knew full well;
In them she thought she heard a
voice:

"Good morning! little Nell."

Her baby heart was filled with love,
And, with a graceful nod,
Seeing her Maker in the flowers,
She said, "Dood morning, Dod."

MRS. M. A. SUTFIN, *Liberty, Mich.*

OUTWITTING JACK FROST.

CHAPTER I.

IT IS a shame for our erstwhile gay beds and borders to become brown and bare at the first breath of cruel Jack Frost. Conquer them he must, but why without a struggle should we give up our gardens to him the half or more of each year, when by a little circumvention we can shorten his reign from two to four months each season? We can include among our plants everblooming and half hardy sorts that will bloom until autumn is all but past and winter all but begun; then, beginning with the iron-clad snowdrop and crocus, we can have outdoor flowers in the spring again before the last snows have fairly melted. Leaving the subject of early spring flowers for another article, let us see what can be done to prolong the display of flowers after the first coming of the frost king. Let me illustrate by a bit of personal experience.

Here, in Southern Missouri, we have had an average autumn. Light frosts the 3rd, 4th and 5th of October, heavier frosts the 12th, 13th and 14th, and a regular cold wave the 25th to 28th of October inclusive, that made the ground as white as snow with frost and coated our overflowing water tank with a sheet of thin ice all over its sides. Since then we have had light frosts most of the nights. Yet on this, the 3rd day of November, I find blooming in the yard in great variety and profusion the queenly autumn chrysanthemums, tritomas and violets, the equally profuse verbenas, pansies, manettia vine, petunias, dianthus, Marguerite carnations, sweet alyssum and perennial peas; less numerous than in summer, yet showing quite a number of blossoms, are perennial phlox, Hybrid Perpetual and Tea roses, Malva moschata, Viola pedata, Verbena aubletia, feverfews, silenes, calendulas (pot marigolds), antirrhinums and Mexican primroses, while there is a small sprinkle of flowers on the larkspurs, Clematis Jackmanii, Zephyranthes candida, achilleas, maurandya vine, Oxalis lasiandra and a belated wild aster. This does not include a few tender plants that have been protected by covering, but those plants only that have weathered the storms as best they could.

Nor are these twenty-eight families mentioned above the only plants whose beauty remains uninjured. The foliage of the golden feather pyrethrum is still bright and clear; a surplus smilax, left out to die, is green and glossy as ever. The cruel vine (*Physanthus albens*) shows not a trace of frost; the golden netted honeysuckle is almost as beautiful as ever, and the foliage of that shy bloomer but exquisitely foliaged

vine, *Passiflora Constance Elliott*, is as richly, deeply green as in summer. The notes kept of the garden's record for six years back show that the sweet alyssum, perennial pea and *Verbena aubletia*—the latter a distinct native species of considerable beauty—may be expected to keep in bloom until nearly or quite the first of December, and the pansies and violets until nearly Christmas. The lovely passion vine, *Constance Elliott*, will be a bower of green until January's repeated freezes finish it. Mild winters I have known this plant to stay green until the 28th of January. It will stand freeze after freeze with impunity, its leaves resisting more cold than any other deciduous plant of my knowledge, though its roots are rather tender.

But someone will say, "Did you not cover these flowers on the coldest nights?" No, not once, save a few varieties of chrysanthemums whose blossoms discolor after being frosted, as I had learned by experience. I confess, however, that I did take advantage of the long, broad beds between the house and the walks, and of the sheltered nooks made by projecting porches and bay windows, to plant therein the tritomas, *Manettia cordifolia* vine, clematis and Mexican primrose, that can stand moderate frost but not hard freezing, but I have no patent on the idea and anyone else is free to follow it. Few realize the protection that it is to a plant to be situated in the lee of a building. Though we had several frosts, some of them pretty stiff ones, it was the 25th of October before dahlias, moonflowers, salvias, *Manettia bicolor* and other tender plants were injured, because we had ours growing close to the house. Every frosty morning, until that time, the yard would be white with frost save a little strip ten to fifteen feet wide next to the house. Here there would be a cold heavy dew only, and I do not think our dahlias and salvias are ever handsomer than during those last two or three weeks they are saved to us by the sheltering walls of our house.

Then, to be frank, a successful late autumn display has been in part secured by the judicious choice of particular varieties, or by some special treatment. For instance, the older varieties of perennial phlox rarely blossom beyond midsummer, but many of the new sorts show such a tendency toward an ever-blooming character that if the faded flower heads are removed a few times a succession of new panicles of bloom is kept up. In the same way, if no rose haws are allowed to form, strong Tea roses and those Hybrid Perpetuals that partake of an ever-blooming character, such as *La France*, *Gen. Jacqueminot*, *Mrs. John Laing* and *Mad. Chas. Wood*, will bud and bloom until freezing weather, and these cool weather roses are generally very large and beautiful. Chrysanthemums for out of doors should be chosen from the earliest varieties only, and the Pompon and Chinese varieties will be found the hardiest.

These are but notes of one garden, and the list of late blooming plants could certainly be extended by the addition of Ten-weeks and Intermediate stock, mountain fleece and Christmas rose, and probably several others. Further north than this bloom could not be secured as late in the year, but hardy plants would bloom as relatively long after the coming of frost as here. North of the Ohio river tritomas, passion flowers, *Manettia cordifolia*, and perhaps others, are only precariously hardy and should be given a sheltered location, and well protected over winter besides. The most of the autumn bloomers are perfectly hardy plants, however, fitted to endure the coldest weather, and if we go without fall flowers it is not because of lack of varieties, but for lack of choosing on our part.

Pineville, Mo.

L. S. LAMANCE.

THE GARDEN ASTERS.

THE innumerable varieties of *Callistephus sinensis*, or as they are popularly known, China asters, form, when taken together, a very beautiful and useful group of half hardy annual plants belonging to the natural order Compositæ.



They may be described as being half hardy annual plants growing, according to the several varieties, from six to eighteen inches in height, having a hispid stem and ovate coarsely dentate leaves, producing their various colored double or semi-double flowers in the greatest profusion from August to October, the precise time depending much on the soil, season, and manner in which the plants are grown. The flowers vary in color from dark crimson to pure white, including all intermediate shades, and are of the greatest value during the autumn months for cut flower purposes on account of their being borne on long stalks. They are most desirable for show or exhibition purposes, while well grown plants form a most excellent addition to the mixed flower border.

The China aster is originally a native of China, whence its popular name. In its native home it has a single but showy flower, bearing no more resemblance to the cultivated aster of today than the mayweed does to the dahlia. By a skillful course of cultivation the aster has been so vastly improved that we have many magnificent varieties, and it has become a general favorite. Its popularity is rapidly increasing and I have no hesitation in saying that when well grown it has no rival among annuals.

To grow the aster to perfection it should be given a very deep, well enriched soil, and the plants should have sufficient space in which to properly develop themselves. From twelve to fourteen inches apart is the proper distance for the tall growing varieties, while those of dwarf growth may be placed six or eight inches apart. If extra fine flowers are desired a mulch of coarse stable manure should be given as soon as the plants are large enough to permit of its being done, and if they can be given an occasional watering during seasons of drought they will repay the trouble. The aster's period of bloom is from August to October, the time depending entirely on the season and manner in which the plants are grown, but when a succession is desired, or the flowers wanted for special purposes, it will be best not to have them bloom all at once, or too early in the season, as the aster is essentially a fall flower and its flowers are always the largest and most perfect in the showery weather and cool nights of autumn. The tall varieties require support and it should be given by means of neat stakes, or else they will be thrown down by storms of wind and rain and their beauty destroyed.

The seed can be sown at any time from the middle of March to the first of May in well drained pots, pans, or boxes filled with light loamy soil; sow thinly, cover lightly, and place in a warm, moist situation, as close to the glass as possible, and as soon as the plants are strong enough to handle they should be transplanted into other boxes or pans similarly prepared and grown on in a cool, airy situation until they are

planted outside. In transplanting keep the plants about an inch and a half apart each way. Or the seed can be sown in a cold frame placed on a nicely prepared border about the 10th of April, and as soon as the young plants are strong enough to handle let them be transplanted and treated as above advised.

In this latitude asters do well when sown in the border in a well protected, sunny situation about the first of May. Sow very thinly, and as soon as the plants are strong enough to handle remove them to the place where it is intended they are to bloom. The only objection to this mode of culture is their lateness and short duration of flowering. Whether the seed is sown in the hotbed, cold frame or open air great care must be taken to secure strong and stocky plants. To secure this desired end the seed should be sown thinly and the young plants transplanted as soon as they commence to touch each other, and as often as necessary, until they are planted outside. As long as the plants are inside they should be placed in a cool, airy situation, for a plant that has become "drawn" will never produce fine flowers.

In making a selection one can hardly go astray in taking any that may be found described in any reliable seed catalogue, but I prefer those named below. Of these a few varieties may be procured in separate colors.

Comet. This differs from all others in its long wavy, twisted petals which are formed into a loose yet dense half globe like head, three to four inches across. They are perfectly double and of a delicate pink bordered with white.

Cocardeau, or Crown. This grows about eighteen inches in height, the flowers being usually two colored, the central petals being pure white, sometimes small and quilled, surrounded with large flat bright colored petals.

Hedge-Hog or Needle. This grows about two feet in height. The flowers are handsome yet very peculiar, as the petals are long quilled and sharply pointed.

Snowball. Grows about two feet in height and produces from ten to fifteen perfectly formed pure white semi-spherical flowers on each plant, the individual flowers being composed of short thick imbricated petals. It is entirely distinct and is the first of a new and superior race.

Truffaut's Pæony Flowered Perfection grows about eighteen inches in height. The flowers are large, a little reflexed, and exceedingly bright in color.

Triumph attains a height of about eighteen inches, the individual flowers being from two and a half to three inches across, the petals being beautifully incurved.

Victoria is a most magnificent variety growing about twenty inches in height. The plant is pyramidal in habit and when well grown will produce from twenty-five to thirty flowers.

Washington. Plant of pyramidal habit growing about two feet in height. It is the largest known variety, the individual flowers often measuring four or five inches across, they are perfectly double and of many exquisite colors. In my opinion this is the finest aster in cultivation.

CHAS. E. PARNELL.

THE VEGETABLE GARDEN.—It is time now to begin to make plans for the vegetable garden. It will be all the better for some thought expended on it. Two months hence the work will commence in earnest. A good vegetable garden is worth many times its cost either on the farm or in the village.

LETTUCE IN THE GREENHOUSE.

THE Ohio Experiment Station in its Bulletin of last September contained a full account of the method of raising lettuce in greenhouses, written by W. S. Turner, Assistant in Horticulture. Some extracts and condensed statements will convey to our readers the main points of the article.

"It requires no particular skill to germinate lettuce seed, but watchful care should be exercised to meet with good success.

Nice, well pulverized compost soil is good, although we consider black muck better than anything else we have ever used, as it holds moisture quite well, is not lumpy, and the plants can be taken from it for transplanting without breaking small roots, as is the case with heavier soil. Use flats for sowing seed and first transplanting. The reasons for using these are very apparent if once tried. They may be easily moved under benches, or from warm to cooler, or light to darker location, as the seed or plants may require. This saves space, either in greenhouse, hotbed or cold frame, as the case may be. Sow seed in drills one and one-half or two inches apart, making the drill marks one-fourth inch deep, having the soil in flats somewhat packed so that the marks will be of uniform depth. Cover by sifting with the hand fine screened muck or soil over the box sufficient to cover the seeds from sight, smoothing over with a stick or board.

Care should be taken in watering to use a fine spray, or better still to set the flats for two or three hours in the water-bench and irrigate. There is considerable danger of the young plants damping off in the dark weather of winter or early spring. To avoid this keep the flats in as warm, well ventilated a place as possible and the soil well stirred, using water very sparingly.

Transplant into flats 2 x 2 inches apart when the second leaves are well started; this will be about twenty days or three weeks from sowing. The soil used should be of rich compost, heavier than for seedling, as the plants may be taken up for the last transplanting with a lump of dirt about the roots. Stir the soil frequently between the rows to prevent damping off as before. They may remain in these flats about three weeks after this transplanting, or longer if kept in a cool place, or be carried out into a hotbed or cold frame, as the case may be, for hardening off.

The soil in the beds into which the lettuce is transplanted the second and last time should be a rich compost, or muck may be used with a mulching of fresh, well pulverized horse manure. Set the plants six or eight inches apart. Such varieties as Grand Rapids and Simpson do well 6 x 8, or even 6 x 6 inches apart, but head lettuce requires more room, at least 8 x 8 inches apart. Cultivate between rows as before; water often, but not too heavily, until the plants cover the surface of the soil, then water by pouring on in a solid stream between the rows, from hose or watering can. This is in order to keep the water off the foliage as much as possible. If large-leaved lettuce plants are well drenched the water runs down toward the hearts, and it is very slow in drying out, a condition which is favorable for rot and mildew."

The green fly (aphis) is kept in check by sifting tobacco dust over the young plants soon after the first transplanting. After the plants get large this method will not be effectual in the greenhouse, but will answer in hotbeds or cold frames.

"In the house, fumigate by burning the tobacco dust, as it burns easily, makes more smoke than tobacco stems and is not so dangerous. After fumigating the lice will drop on the soil, then by sifting the tobacco on them they will be quite thoroughly destroyed."

The results are given of raising and testing 40 different varieties. For market purposes four of these are selected as the best and of these the Grand Rapids stands at the head. The four are: Grand Rapids, Tomhannock, Black Seeded Simpson and Salzer's Earliest. The last two are considered the same variety.

"The Tomhannock is colored like the Prize Head, but does not form a head, and is much like the Grand Rapids in growth. Black Seeded Simpson is the

quickest growing of all varieties, rightly named by Salzer as the earliest (Salzer's Earliest)."

"Grand Rapids we consider the best of all varieties for winter and early spring crop, because of its freedom from disease, fine appearance of leaf and bunch, and good handling qualities. Its one fault is that it is a little slow in coming to maturity, but it makes up for that in steady gain in weight after it is large enough to harvest. Many varieties begin to lose in weight as soon as mature, hence must be cut promptly, but with Grand Rapids this loss is very small, even if left standing for some time. In the East, head lettuce is grown almost exclusively, probably owing largely to the demands of the markets. Grand Rapids lettuce sells as well or better than head lettuce in Columbus and most other Ohio markets, and is much more profitable to the grower, because it can be planted closer, thus giving a larger yield, and as above stated, it is less liable to disease. It is much superior for forcing to all other varieties, and those who have given it a trial plant it almost exclusively. No grower in this State need hesitate to plant it almost exclusively; in fact he can hardly afford to plant any other variety. This may seem to be a strong statement, but the facts so far as observed will bear it out."

"In market value the average weight of heads corresponds quite closely with the price. In early winter and late spring small heads of two ounce weight bring about twenty cents per dozen in this market; four or six-ounce heads about forty cents per dozen, although a much larger quantity can be sold in late spring than in early winter. In late winter and early spring two-ounce plants will bring thirty to forty cents; four and six-ounce plants from sixty to eighty cents per dozen. It is then very desirable to have the best and largest crop come off in February and March. There is a moderate demand for lettuce at Thanksgiving time and also at the holidays, but only a limited amount can be sold. But all available space should be devoted to lettuce to come to maturity in February or March.

It takes about eleven or twelve weeks to grow the early winter and late spring crop, and about thirteen or fourteen weeks to grow the late winter crop, as the young plants grow slower through the dark months of winter. By the use of flats four crops of lettuce may be grown in a season, three in the greenhouse, and one in cold frames or hotbeds, but all may be started in the house. The young plants occupy the flats about half the time of their growth, so that the entire space required by a crop is occupied only about six weeks. Three crops may be grown in the house; the first is only a partial crop on account of the moderate demand; the second is the main crop. The third will be partially crowded out because so many other plants claim room in the house in early spring. The third crop may be grown between tomato plants with moderate success, and comes off a little before, or at the same time as the hotbed crop. For the last crop the plants may be transplanted into open ground or cold frames and then be earlier than ordinary outdoor lettuce.

The possibilities of production may be estimated as follows: We have grown crops on the middle benches that were harvested the last of February and the first of March that averaged one-half pound per plant; at 6 x 8 inches apart this gives one and one-half pound per square foot. At 15 cents per pound the product would bring 22½ cents per square foot. A fair estimate for the season would be 30 cents per square foot of greenhouse space for the lettuce crop, and about one-third that amount for hotbed space. This, it must be remembered, is only for lettuce; other crops following in both house and hotbed make the space much more valuable. Outdoor space may be counted at five or six cents per square foot. So it may be seen by summing all the crops together that quite a reasonable amount of money may be made in raising lettuce, if one is successful.

The necessary elements of success in lettuce growing may be summed up as follows:

Keep the plants in flats until ready to set in permanent bed.

Use rich compost soil.

Use good judgment in watering.

Cultivate the crop as much as possible.

Keep the lower dead leaves well picked off.

Watch for and fight the green fly incessantly.

Grow Grand Rapids unless the market demands other varieties."

THE COLUMBIAN YEAR is a good time to rearrange the grounds, to set new plants, to plant out memorial trees, and to make various improvements which in the future shall be both useful and beautiful.

NOTES FROM CALIFORNIA.

THE last days of November are here and the gardens of California begin to put on a more sober garb. Nevertheless, in all our sheltered valleys, on all our frostless heights, there is still a wonderful amount of bloom. The gardens are full of roses, geraniums, nasturtiums, fuchsias, jasmines, and many other flowers. The other day at Berkeley I saw a fine vine of *Mandevilla suaveolens* with many clusters of bloom. At various places within the past month I have noticed *tecomas* in bloom; one strong vine of the small tubed scarlet sort was at Ontario, one of the Southern California colonies.

Here, in Alameda county, near the Bay of San Francisco, the October showers have made the hillsides green, and the beautiful "State Flower," the orange-hued *eschscholtzia*, can be gathered abundantly in many sheltered nooks. We sowed some seed in the garden a few years ago and now the place is a mass of young plants three or four inches high, fit to transplant, and bloom heavily from next March until December, so full and free a giver is this royal flower.

It is perhaps worth while to record the fact that the California State Floral Society, a strong and prosperous organization, had the honor of choosing the *eschscholtzia* as the emblem of the State. A discussion had been going on in the newspapers for a number of months, and many suggestions were made public. There was real danger that some very inappropriate choice would be made, and, then the ladies of the State Floral Society took the matter up and adopted the "golden poppy," much to the popular delight, for no other flower that could have been named is half so appropriate. The poets and the artists took it up and it has become a part of the life of California—this blossom of Southern California oranges and Northern California gold mines.

Farmers out here are compelled to be careful what they let their wives plant in the garden; many annuals of colder climates run wild before long and do tenfold injury in the fields, while some perennial greenhouse plants of much beauty are quite as bad. The *lantana* goes wild in our warm valleys and is a nuisance; several of the *daturas* are thickly scattered along irrigation ditches in the San Joaquin, and are hard to kill; the *ricinus* is naturalized in the canons. In some places one finds a sort of degenerate tomato in abundance. *Martynia*, the garden vegetable, whose pods appear in pickles, is as common as mallows in some old orchards. If Californians were a race of annual growers many sorts would soon be seen mingling with wild species on our hillsides, but there are few annuals planted, comparatively speaking.

The people that "know how" are in the habit of sowing hardy and half hardy annuals at this time of the year. Before the garden slugs were so abundant we used to sow in the open ground and cover with a partial shade until the plants were up, then thin, and leave most of them to bloom where they stood. I have tested, at one time or another, every species of annual in the leading American lists, and I wish that more persons in California grew annuals. The most of them that I see in these days (except, of course, sweet peas, asters, morning glories, and the ten or twelve most conspicuous sorts) are annuals that seem to belong to old mining towns and foothill villages, where dear old ladies still

grow the weedy and gorgeous annuals of their girlhood, unmindful of the improved varieties.

Old gardeners are beginning to prune shrubs, roses, the Japan quince hedges, and many things about the grounds. The leaves are not all off, but the wood is ripe, and cuttings of the hard-wood plants, if put into the ground now in a warm, sheltered nook, and watered until the rains come, will certainly root a large percentage by spring. This applies to a large number of California garden plants, and to many of the roses, though, as our rosarians know, some sorts must always be budded upon stronger stocks. Nature, out here, seems to make up for the difficulty of propagating plants by seeds or cuttings in summer, by the extreme facility of the process during the rainy season. The nurserymen grow hundreds and thousands of the hardy shrubs with as little trouble as if they were currant cuttings.

But I am wandering from the garden of November and December. Already the narcissi are budding, and some have bloomed. Those spring bulbs that were left in the ground, a treatment that exactly suits some, are above the ground in nearly every case. They will do their part in the garden, at the time, a little after New Years, when the roses are apt to fail so completely that we can only find one or two to keep up the reputation of our climate. Some seasons are colder than others; there have been years when no one could justly claim much for the outdoor roses of January and February in any part of California, north or south. But even roses must have a rest, and after a winter of unusual cold it seems as if they bloomed with redoubled energy. CHARLES H. SHINN.

TOMATOES UNDER GLASS.

IN THE Eastern States tomatoes are often forced in midwinter, at which time they bring fancy prices in large cities. A higher temperature is required to force tomatoes than most other crops, artificial pollenization must be practiced, and great care taken to keep the plants free from disease. These items reduce the profits very materially, and renders this business quite uncertain except near large cities.

The Ohio Experiment Station has found that there is more profit in keeping the houses filled with lettuce during the greater part of the winter and holding back tomatoes for a spring and early summer greenhouse crop.

Lettuce is not a profitable greenhouse crop later than April, but tomatoes flourish in the houses during the spring and early summer months much better than in winter. The crop is mostly gathered during May and June, at which time 16 to 20 cents per pound is realized.

This is less than half the price paid in winter, but owing to the decreased cost of production and greater demand, there is more profit in a spring than in a winter crop.

In order to have plants ready to fill the houses as soon as the last crop of lettuce is out, tomato seed is sown about the last week in December. Seed is sown in shallow boxes, not having more than two inches depth of soil. As tomatoes require considerable heat, these seed boxes should be kept in a warm part of the greenhouse.

Soon after the plants have formed the second leaves they should be transplanted. For this purpose the same kind of shallow boxes are used as before, and in these the young plants are set about two inches apart each way. If kept growing nicely the plants will begin to crowd each other in three or four weeks, when they should be again transplanted. This time

they are to be set about four inches apart each way. The same kind of boxes may be used as before, but greater care must be taken to keep the plants watered than when younger, as more water is required because of the greater amount of foliage. During all stages of growth in which the plants are kept in boxes or flats, a good method of watering is to place the boxes of plants in a shallow vat, holding a small quantity of water. If these plant boxes have slatted bottoms as they should have, the water soaks up evenly through the soil, and in a more thorough and satisfactory manner than when surface watering is practiced. The only precautions that need be observed in following this method is not to water until the plants require it, and not to keep them soaking after the soil is fairly wet. If desired, the plants may be set in four-inch pots or in large beds at the second transplanting, instead of into boxes, but the latter plan has some advantages over the others.

Early in March the plants ought to be a foot or more in height, and just coming into bloom. They are then ready to set in permanent beds for fruiting.

These beds should contain about six inches of soil. The plants are set about 20 inches apart each way, and in order to occupy the ground fully lettuce plants are set between. As soon as the lettuce is cut the tomato plants are given the whole space. The soil should be stirred frequently, and it is advisable to mulch the surface with half rotted manure. An important part of the care of the crop consists in pruning and training. The plants must be tied to some support and the tying must be repeated as often as required, as the plants increase in height. Stakes may be used for support, or strings may be tied to the rafters, and the lower end fastened to short stakes driven near the plants and the plants tied to these strings. The side shoots near the base of the plants must be removed as they appear and the plants kept trained to single stalks, or, if preferred, two shoots may be allowed to start from each plant, but in any case the surplus suckers must be removed as they appear. This pruning hastens maturity and makes possible to grow the plants within the narrow limits named. It is not necessary to remove any foliage, unless it becomes diseased, in which case it is better off than on, as it does no good, besides it is unsightly and serves to spread the disease.

As before stated, tomato plants are less subject to disease late in the season than early, but the best preventive of disease is good care so as to keep the plants growing thriftily. A fair crop when grown in this manner is about five pounds per plant.

This cannot be rated as a highly profitable greenhouse crop, but when it is considered that it is grown at a time when the houses would otherwise remain idle the reason for growing it is apparent.

Concerning varieties but little need be said. Almost any smooth fruited sort is suitable for the purpose. The extra early varieties are too rough and irregular for the purpose, as their close pruning seems to make the defect still more prominent.

Acme, Favorite and Beauty are very satisfactory. Dwarf Champion does very well, but is less fruitful than the above, and is more difficult to prune. Its earliness is its chief merit. A method of growing early tomatoes out of doors to succeed the greenhouse crop will be given at another time.

CALIFORNIA YELLOW BELLS.

IT SEEMS strange that one of the loveliest of California annuals should have escaped attention among lovers of flowers for so long. And yet the Yellow Bells of California, as it is called, is hardly yet introduced. The plant forms a broad bush, from a span to occasionally two feet high. Each of its numerous branches is fairly loaded with broadly bell-shaped pendulous flowers, a half inch long, and of a delicate cream color. The flowers are almost everlasting, the persistent corolla drying and retaining its shape until the seed has ripened. "The general effect of a branch is suggestive of a long



EMMENANTHE PENDULIFLORA.

spike of the lily of the valley," says one writer regarding it.

The pinnatifid foliage has caused the plant occasionally to be taken for a fern, before it blossoms. It occurs in Utah, and from Lake County to San Diego, and southward in Lower California. It belongs to the same family as the phacelia, nemophila and whitlavia of our gardens—all natives of the Golden State.

San Diego, Cal.

C. R. ORCUTT.

GREENHOUSE VEGETABLES.

A REPORT from the Ohio Experiment Station gives valuable additional information in growing vegetable crops in winter under glass and is worthy of being read and carefully considered by gardeners everywhere.

It may be news to many that the conditions are so unlike in the East and West that the business of forcing vegetables in greenhouses, although quite profitable in the first named section, has not been found to pay in the latter.

The large cities of the East afford a better market than Western States, and Southern competition is more keenly felt in the latter. Near large Eastern cities head lettuce is grown exclusively, tomatoes and cucumbers are forced in midwinter, but to follow the same course here would be to court failure. Head lettuce cannot be grown so cheaply as varieties that do not form heads, but there is no better demand in western cities for the former than for the latter. Tomatoes and cucumbers are difficult to force in midwinter, and the prices that may be obtained for them here at that season of the year, are not sufficient to pay the cost of production.

In spite of these drawbacks recent developments show that the business may be carried on profitably in the Western States.

The introduction of the Grand Rapids lettuce may

be said to mark the commencement of a new era in lettuce growing. It is less subject to disease and can be grown more cheaply than any of the heading sorts, which are looked upon as standards in the East. The difference between it and other varieties is so marked that by its cultivation the profits may be nearly, or quite doubled. This alone is a great advance, but after three years experimenting with sub-irrigation the Ohio Station has found that the lettuce crop may by this means be nearly doubled.

This places the lettuce grower in a much better position than before, in fact, lettuce forcing in greenhouses is now a profitable business, whereas it was in danger of being abandoned in many parts of the country.

This is a matter about which tariff reformers will not have much to say, as tariff has nothing to do with the matter. Overproduction in one section nearly

destroyed a growing industry in another, but the discovery of a variety and the application of an old device in a new manner, has saved a business which is likely to become one of great importance.

There is no reason why vegetable culture under glass should not now become of equal importance with floriculture, and this means many thousands of dollars annually added to our productive resources.

Sub-irrigation was first used with lettuce in order to avoid watering the foliage, thus preventing the much dreaded lettuce rot. It was found that the lettuce grew much better by this method of watering than when water was applied to the surface of the soil. Operations were then enlarged, and entire houses are now supplied with water in this manner. In order to operate the plan successfully water tight benches are erected. These may be made in various ways, but matched flooring laid in white lead answers very well. Drain tile are laid

on these benches 2½ feet apart and covered with soil. Watering is accomplished by pouring into the ends of the tile, where a T joint is laid for convenience.

Some later experiments show that the same principle may be extended successfully, beginning as soon as the seed is sown. The seed is sown in shallow boxes with slatted bottoms. A convenient size is 16 x 24 inches and two inches deep. Lath is used for the bottoms, and is laid close together, which allows the water to pass through, but prevents the soil falling out. These boxes, or flats are filled with soil and the seed sown in very shallow marks made on the surface of the soil. Covering may be done with the fingers or a board, and the whole surface pressed down firmly with a block. No water is applied to the surface of the soil, but the boxes are placed in a shallow vat in which is a small quantity of water. These seed boxes are allowed to remain in the vat until the soil is quite well soaked, then taken out and placed in a warm part of the house. The seed germinates very quickly and certainly by this method, hence should not be sown so thickly as when surface watering is practiced. When large enough the young plants are transplanted into flats of the same size as above named, and watering is done in the same manner. Labor is saved by following this method, although [the contrary may seem to be true. This is because watering need be done less frequently than by the old method, but even if such were not the case the results justify the adoption of the new method.]

Both radishes and cucumbers flourish under the same treatment, although they are not benefited to such an extent as lettuce. Tomatoes respond less than any other crop, but they show sufficient gain to pay for fitting up the house for sub-irrigation.

Experience has shown that a sub-irrigation plant pays for itself in one season, or one hundred per cent, on the investment. This estimate is for greenhouse crop in general, but for lettuce alone the profit is greater.

In a previous bulletin tomato culture after lettuce was given in detail, but there are other crops which may be grown with profit, such as radishes, cucum-

bers and parsley. Under the benches the space may be used for mushrooms, dandelion, pie plant and asparagus. The mushroom crop is about as profitable as any that can be grown, and yet it requires no light. It has the advantage, also, of not being produced so largely in the South as other crops, hence competition is not to be feared.

In view of the facts that have been stated it is evident that an important industry may now be built up. If such a thing is not done it will be because gardeners do not take advantage of the situation. The business ought to be encouraged, for whatever is done in this line means just that much added to our productive capacity.

A NEW MUSHROOM.—It appears that a gardener in the vicinity of New York is supplying that market with a form of mushroom hitherto unknown. It is similar to the common mushroom, *Agaricus campestris*, but grows larger and heavier, and bears more abundantly. The buttons, or heads before they open out, are longer than those of the common sort, the flesh is white, the gills are at first white but when the veil breaks they change to pink. It is yet to be learned just what is this new variety.



A Racking Cough

Cured by Ayer's Cherry Pectoral.
Mrs. P. D. HALL, 217 Genesee St.,
Lockport, N. Y., says:

"Over thirty years ago, I remember hearing my father describe the wonderful curative effects of Ayer's Cherry Pectoral. During a recent attack of La Grippe, which assumed the form of a catarrh, soreness of the lungs, accompanied by an aggravating cough, I used various remedies and prescriptions. While some of these medicines partially alleviated the coughing during the day, none of them afforded me any relief from that spasmodic action of the lungs which would seize me the moment I attempted to lie down at night. After ten or twelve such nights, I was

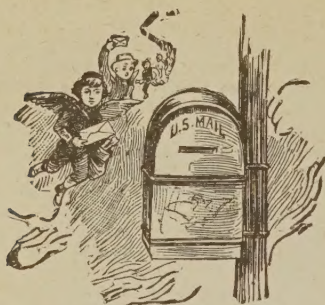
Nearly in Despair,

and had about decided to sit up all night in my easy chair, and procure what sleep I could in that way. It then occurred to me that I had a bottle of Ayer's Cherry Pectoral. I took a spoonful of this preparation in a little water, and was able to lie down without coughing. In a few moments I fell asleep, and awoke in the morning greatly refreshed and feeling much better. I took a teaspoonful of the Pectoral every night for a week, then gradually decreased the dose, and in two weeks my cough was cured."

Ayer's Cherry Pectoral

Prepared by Dr. J. C. Ayer & Co., Lowell, Mass.

Prompt to act, sure to cure



OUR LETTER BOX.

In this department we will be pleased to answer any questions relating to Flowers, Vegetables and Plants, or to publish the experiences of our readers. JAMES VICK.

Caprice Rose.

JAMES VICK:—I see in the "Letter Box" of your December number that H. B. C., of New Bedford, says his Caprice rose blossomed four times this year; if it keeps on it will prove to be a perpetual bloomer, which I sincerely hope will be the case. I shall watch mine with more than usual interest the coming year. There cannot be too much said in its praise as it is as near perfection as any rose can be. L. J. N.

Hemlock Lake, N. Y.

Seedling Lemons and Oranges.

JAMES VICK:—Will lemon trees raised from the seed bear fruit? How old must they become before they bear? Is it necessary to graft them? I have five lemon trees, they will be three years old in the spring, and four orange trees. Miss M. O.

Hopedale, Ills.

Seedling lemon and orange trees will bear, when of sufficient age, without grafting. Ten years to be taken as the average bearing age.

Pansy, Peas, Tomato.

JAMES VICK:—I want to tell how nicely my 25-cent packet of pansy seed has done. I planted them the middle of April. They began blooming the 4th of July and have been a mass of bloom ever since; I planted in a bed and let them bloom there. My pansies have been admired very much. The bed was shaded in the afternoon and I watered them often. The sweet peas I planted to run on the fence. They are now, September 2, higher than the fence and like the pansies they began to bloom about the 4th of July. The Stone tomato is splendid. E. S.

Herman, Neb.

Palm—Chrysanthemum.

JAMES VICK:—Will you please tell me in your next number of Vick's Magazine which is better for a palm during the winter, and also during the summer, sunshine or shade?

The Pink Ostrich Plume chrysanthemum I got from you in the spring was lovely this fall, quite up to what the illustration prepared me to find it. Indeed the blooms really exceeded my expectations. Millwood, Va.

Mrs. J. L. W. B.

Palms like the sun, either in summer or winter, and will do best with a good exposure to the light, but will do well in a light shade.

A Bad Weed.

JAMES VICK:—What is enclosed plant and how can I kill it out of my land? It is a milkweed, spreads rapidly; is not liked by horse or cow and is no use. Will dressing heavy with manure or potash kill it out? Think it is a euphorbia or spurge. I want to know how to get rid of it. S. W. H.

The plant is, apparently, Euphorbia Cyparissias, a herbaceous perennial plant, which has found its way into many gardens. The best way to rid a place of it is to keep the ground hoed clean, cutting off every sprout of it that appears; by persistently keeping it down in this way it will die out by the second season.

Hyacinths.

JAMES VICK:—Please tell me how to persuade my hyacinths to bloom. I have had them several years and they have never bloomed. They occupy a dry, partially shaded position. X.

Junet, Ark.

Perhaps the bulbs were worthless when the inquirer first planted them. At any rate, they are so now. They have outlived their useful-

ness, and should be spaded in. A small amount spent for new bulbs in autumn will secure the desired bloom. Hyacinths are not expensive and the blooms they give the first season are worth much more than they cost. The bulbs deteriorate rapidly, and the only way to have good blooms each spring is to purchase some good bulbs in the fall of each year.

Mealy Bug—Air Plant.

JAMES VICK:—Please tell me what will kill the mealy bug on a strawberry geranium?

A friend brought me last week two leaves of an air plant to hang up. She said they would send out shoots from the sides. When the shoots come what shall I do with them? Mrs. A. H. B.

Brooklyn, N. Y.

The mealy bug can be removed from the plants with a brush; or take a small stick and dip it in whisky and apply a drop to the insect and it will kill it. Whale Oil Soap is another destroyer of this insect.

What the plant is that is here called an air plant we have no means of knowing, but it is safe to say that if the leaves send out shoots they can be left to take care of themselves, only supplying the necessary heat and moisture.

Clerodendron.

JAMES VICK:—What shall I do with my clerodendron? It don't grow, won't grow, and I fear it is going to die. I bought it one year ago last spring. It started at once and was soon blooming. It bloomed most of the summer and then showed signs of rest. I withheld water for a long time, then repotted the plant in sand, well rotted manure and garden soil. It never seemed to mind it, but refused to grow or die. The leaves look yellow and it does not budge one inch. I kept it out of doors on the east side of the house this summer; now it is in a south window. I do not know whether it requires shade or not, or much water. Mrs. C. A. M.

Kerr, Mo.

Do not give the plant much water at present and keep it in a half dormant condition until later in the season. About the first of February give it a warm place and a good light, and as it starts to grow give water as needed.

Calceolaria and Cockscomb Seed.

JAMES VICK:—Please tell how to sow the calceolaria and the cockscomb. Soon after the plants come up they fall down and die. Mrs. J. K.

Caspar, Cal.

The seedlings which die off in the manner described are probably kept too close and damp. In the article on calceolaria in Practical Garden Points, the following directions are given about seed sowing and the young plants. The directions apply about as well to the cockscomb:

"The best time for sowing the seed is from the middle of May to the middle of June, for it will vegetate much better if sown before the hot weather sets in. In order to cultivate the calceolaria readily and successfully a cold frame will be found to be absolutely necessary; this should be placed on a bed of coal ashes, in a

partially shaded situation, and the sash white-washed or painted, so as to shield the plants from the hot sun. The sash can be raised or closed as may be necessary to protect the plants from severe storms and sudden changes in temperature. The seed should be sown in a well drained pot or pan, filled with light, loamy soil; sow it very thinly and press into the earth with the bottom of a pot. Place the pot or pan in the cold frame, and keep it rather close until the young plants make their appearance. The soil in the pans should be dampened occasionally, but avoid keeping them too wet, as it may cause the young plants to damp off. As soon as the plants are strong enough to handle, they should be transplanted into other pans similarly prepared, and placed about an inch and a half apart each way. These young plants should be carefully watered, and kept close and moist for a few days; but when they have taken root a little air should be given in order to prevent them from becoming drawn.

Roses and Other Plants.

JAMES VICK:—Last June I bought some everblooming roses from six to twelve inches high. I put them into six-inch pots. They made some growth through the summer and bloomed a little. This fall I carried them into my plant house, a low structure with earth floor and glass roof, without fire excepting on a few cold mornings. They are growing and budded, but many of the old leaves are falling while the young growth is curled and looks unhealthy. There are no mildew, aphides, or red spiders on them. The soil is good in the pots and I keep it moist, generally use very weak soap suds. Have sprayed them a few times with Whale Oil soap suds. The temperature of the building varies greatly. Can you tell me what ails my roses?

Can a chrysanthemum plant, if pruned to one stalk, be successfully grown in a six-inch pot?

Can English daisies be wintered safely in any other way than by covering with a cold frame?

Please tell me something about the box plant.

Jaffrey, N. H.

W. F. H.

It is evident that the variable temperature in this case is the cause of the disease of the rose plants. A gentle heat introduced into the house would be the remedy.

A six-inch pot is large enough to raise a chrysanthemum in the manner mentioned.

English daisies in severe climates can be wintered by first throwing over them some brush, and then covering it with leaves; enough brush will be needed to keep the leaves up from the plants allowing a little air space over them. A frame surrounding the plants, but without any sash, would enable one to apply the brush and leaves more effectually.

The box plant is a low evergreen plant which formerly was much in use for garden edgings, but at present is seldom seen except in old gardens. It is a handsome little shrub, but in severe climates is subject more or less to winter killing.

Unlike Unsoluble Cocoas,
which are Indigestible,
and Cocoas adulterated with Starch.

Van Houten's Cocoa
—(BEST & GOES FARTHEST)—

leaves no Sediment on the
bottom of the cup.

How to Cook Kohlrabi.

JAMES VICK:—Will some one describe how to cook kohlrabi?
 Mrs. H. L. H.
Chelsea, Wis.

Hollyhocks the First Year.

JAMES VICK:—In the December number of your Magazine Mrs. A. J. F. reports having two hollyhocks that bloomed the first year from seed, a thing that you seem to consider very remarkable. Last September I could have shown you at least half a dozen hollyhocks in full bloom from the seed planted in pots in April or May and transplanted to the open ground in June. I think early planting may often bring flowers the same year.

I like your Magazine very much, but I must say I like the old form and plan much better.

Owatonna, Minn.

D. H. R.

Calla Leaves Withering.

JAMES VICK:—Will you kindly tell me in the question department of your Magazine the cause of calla lily leaves withering and turning black as soon as they unroll? I keep the lily in a large earthen jar in the bottom of which are placed bits of plant jars, etc., for drainage; the soil is quite rich, and the plant is well watered with warm water, daily, and kept in a warm room. If this is not the proper way to care for it will you please tell me how to do so? C. H.

Torrington, Conn.

We have had no experience which will aid in the solution of the above question. If any of our readers can answer it please send in the information.

Dandelions on Lawn.

JAMES VICK:—The correspondent from Poyntell, Pa., in your November number, has weeds in her lawn and your advice to eradicate them is good. But then how to do it? I use what is called a spud for dandelions; for chickweed and other weeds that root near the surface I use a long blade garden hoe cut down to an inch and a quarter at the end of the blade and keep it sharp with a fine file. In the early summer go over the lawn twice a week with these tools; have stated days for the work, for the price of a good lawn free from weeds is like the price of liberty, "eternal vigilance." In digging so many weeds it will mar the surface, but some time in August sow it thickly with blue grass seed mixed with a little white clover. Cover it lightly with a compost of well rotted manure and good dirt. In every lawn a place should be made to keep such a compost. I have had the same misfortune as your correspondent with weeds. This is my second year's warfare on the above plan of campaign, and now I have destroyed the enemy, have a beautiful lawn, and not a weed in it.

Des Moines, Ia.

J. H. S.

Some Notes.

JAMES VICK:—I am highly pleased to see by the December number that my description was so much appreciated, and hope that A. R. will have the kindness to let the readers of the Magazine know, eventually, how he has succeeded in raising carnations. I also see a notice in the same number made by Mrs. H. B., which seems to ask how to pot carnations. This is very easily told. My secret is this: About a week before the plants are to be lifted from the ground, take a table knife and run it in the ground around each plant, leaving a ball of soil with the plant about large enough to go easily in a six or seven inch flower pot, thereby cutting off the roots. During the following week the roots within the circle will push out new fibrous rootlets, thus giving the plant a better chance for repotting. When I want to lift the plants and find that the soil is too dry I give them a thorough soaking of water the night before and leave it to drain away during the night. In the morning I take up the plants, each with the ball of soil, and plant them in pots provided with good drainage; after this is done the plants are set in the shade and given another dose of water and then left to stand for several days, when they can be removed to the house. The plants are not allowed to get dry. This method of transplanting I practice not alone with carnations but with other plants and find it very successful.

Hoboken, N. J.

G. F. M.

Pansies and Vegetables.

JAMES VICK:—I have been thinking for some time I would report you my success with some of the seed I bought of you last spring. I got a paper of mixed pansy seed. I started them in the house, set them

out in the bed on the first of May, 150 good sized plants. I put them in a bed along the east end of the house; the first bloom opened June 25th, and the flowers kept coming until they were a lovely sight, so many different colors and every imaginable shade! It was a common exclamation, "What lovely pansies! Where did you get them?" (from Vick of course.) One lady remarked, "You must have had a dollars worth of seeds for such a bed as that." I said, "No, only fifteen cents worth." She thought it could not be possible to get such a gorgeous sight as that for so small a sum. The plants kept blooming all the season and on the 10th of November I covered the bed with leaves with lots of blooms frozen stiff. You may imagine how proud I am of my first attempt at raising pansies. I am so encouraged with my success that I think I shall send for a finer lot next year, so I shall anxiously await your new catalogue. My All Season radishes are all I could wish for. I planted them in July and have a bushel of fine ones in the cellar now, and my celery, Dwarf Golden Heart, I had perfect success with. I set out 120 plants and never lost one; so we are having a feast every day now. I am sorry to say we failed with the oats.

Good Hope, Ill.

M. J. K.

A California Letter.

JAMES VICK:—In referring to E. P. R., who made inquiry in the November number about lily of the valley, I will say that I got a dozen pips last December from James Vick. I had never raised them before. All of the twelve came up and eleven of them bloomed. I think half the town came to see them. I have a wax plant which I got from Vick and I think it is grand; it has over fifty flowers in one bunch. In nearly every Magazine there is something about covering and protecting plants, but here we have little trouble in that way. There is not a week or month but I can pick a bud or rose; the foliage is now about as good as in summer; we never think of covering or even enriching for some years. We have now, the week after Thanksgiving, green grass growing; the maidenhair, silver back and sword ferns are now in their full glory. Violets are in bloom and verbenas, white cosmos, stocks, geraniums, coreopsis, chrysanthemums, petunias, snapdragons, tobacco, marigolds, old maid's pin cushion and bachelor button. Stocks and marigolds bloom all the year round. Snapdragon is a perennial with us; calla lily grows out all year round, even on top of the ground; common geraniums and Lady Washingtons will live out all winter. I have had a single pink fringed hollyhock grow the height of 13 feet, and we thought that was tall. Gladiolus we never take up here, but dahlias we do; they claim here that dahlias grow deformed and will become single if left in the ground. China lilies we never think of taking up and they were in bloom in the garden at Thanksgiving. Primroses were in bloom a month ago; they want but little sun here. There are always some wild flowers in bloom here the year round.

Tornales, Cal.

MRS. F. J.

Black Aphis on Chrysanthemums.

JAMES VICK:—What can I do to prevent "black lice" on the leaves and stems of my chrysanthemums when kept in the rooms of my house? They annoy me very much and seem to defeat all my efforts to exterminate them.

Buffalo, N. Y.

A. S. H.

The insects can be destroyed with Sulpho-Tobacco Soap already prepared and for sale, or with kerosene emulsion, or with tobacco water and soap. Take two ounces of tobacco stems and boil them slowly until the juice is extracted; when cold strain it and add enough water to make one quart. Then dissolve two pounds of the best soft soap in three gallons of water and add the tobacco water to it. Mix, and it is ready for use. Spray the plants with the liquid. Afterwards rinse them with clear water.

Take sour milk one pint; kerosene oil one quart; warm to a blood heat and mix thoroughly; add fourteen quarts of water, stir, and it is ready for use. Spray the plants with the liquid and afterwards syringe with clear water.

For a few plants it is best to purchase the Sulpho-Tobacco Soap, and quite as cheap. On a larger scale the other methods could be employed. Florists depend on fumigating the

plants with tobacco; but tobacco smoke in the dwelling house is objectionable, unless one has a room so shut off as to exclude the smoke from the living rooms. Some plant growers have a large box outside which they set their plants in for fumigating.

OLD AND NEW FRIENDS.

JUST the word hollyhock in Vick's Magazine carries me back to the days of my childhood, and I cannot remember when I did not know the hardy flower, with its rugged little buds wrapped in many woolly folds of green to protect them from the autumn frosts. It was the last flower of the old fashioned garden to yield to Jack Frost in New England, buds opening to the very tip top of the tall branching stem. Ambition was well called its language, so aspiring, so dominant and good to hold fast.

From New England to California is quite a stride, for seven league boots even, and the flowers here grace every season in wild profusion. A botanist told me he had somewhere seen wild flowers every month in the year in California.

But I was going to say the picture of lovely fragrant, pure white freesias in your November number reminded me how I was pleasantly surprised by a freesia jumping up and making its maiden speech among my tuberose one spring morning, not knowing there was one on the place, and now I count the freesia as one of the best among my new friends in California, and hope others will cultivate their friendship, and I was glad to see it at home in Vick's useful and popular Magazine.

MRS. E. E. ORCUTT.

Vick's Floral Guide for 1893 will be sent to all customers of 1892. The issue will begin about the 10th of this month, January, and as rapidly as possible a copy will be placed in the hands of each person whose name is now on our list. It will take some two or three weeks to serve all.

FREE VALENTINES.

We have some sweet pretty valentines which we are giving away to all who would like to take our beautiful Magazine, COMFORT on trial for the next three months. They are the regular *cupid's darts* made up with Lace and Lithograph work, and we also include an assortment of comics. Send 6 cents to MORSE & Co., Box 314, Augusta, Maine, for trial subscription and we mail valentine package free.

Driving the Brain

at the expense of the Body.

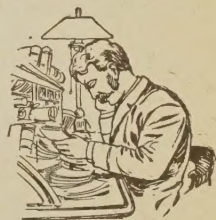
While we drive the brain we must build up the body. Exercise, pure air

—foods that make healthy flesh—refreshing sleep—such are methods. When loss of flesh, strength and nerve become apparent your physician will doubtless tell you that the quickest builder of all three is

Scott's Emulsion

of Cod Liver Oil, which not only creates flesh of and in itself, but stimulates the appetite for other foods.

Prepared by Scott & Bowne, N. Y. All druggists.



VICK'S MAGAZINE.

ROCHESTER, N. Y., JANUARY, 1893.

Entered in the Post Office at Rochester as "second-class" matter.

VICK'S MONTHLY MAGAZINE is published at the following rates, either for old or new subscribers. These rates include postage:

One copy one year, in advance, Fifty Cents.

One copy twenty-seven months (2¼ years), full payment in advance, One Dollar.

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ADVERTISING RATES.

\$1.25 per agate line per month; \$1.18 for 3 months, or 200 lines; \$1.12 for 6 months, or 400 lines; \$1.06 for 9 months, or 600 lines; \$1.00 for 1 year, or 1000 lines. One line extra charged for less than five.

All communications in regard to advertising to Vick Publishing Co., New York office, 38 Times Building, H. P. Hubbard, Manager.

Average monthly circulation **200,000.**

"FRIENDSHIP GARDENS" are all the rage in England. In most places they are a corner in which plants from different friends are planted and grow in company with each other. The idea is quite a pleasant one.

THE "Yard of Poppies" published by *Inghalls' Magazine* is very handsome indeed, and will be an ornament to any home,—a fitting companion to the *Youth's Companion's* "Yard of Roses" and *Demorest's Magazine's* "Yard of Pansies."

HORTICULTURAL MEETING.

The annual meeting of the popular Horticultural Society of Western New York will be held in this city on the 25th of January. The meetings of this society have been for many years a great factor in the education and development of our fruit growers and gardeners and all who are interested in any way in horticulture. We are pleased to say that the value of these meetings appears greater each succeeding year, and the interest in them increases. We can do no greater favor to our horticultural friends who have never attended these meetings than to call their attention to them and urge an attendance. It is a meeting of practical men for practical purposes, and no one can join it without receiving benefit far in excess of time and expense of attending. Let the fruit growers and gardeners of this State turn out and receive the hearty welcome and good fellowship, and the wealth of information that is awaiting them at this meeting on the 25th of January in this city.

FRUIT AND ORNAMENTAL TREES

The raising of fruit and ornamental trees has never been a part of our business. Our attention and time has been fully occupied with flower and vegetable seeds and flowering plants and some of the small fruits and flowering shrubs. During all these years there has been a constant call upon us for fruit and ornamental trees, but we have preferred to refer all such applicants to worthy nurserymen whom we knew could satisfactorily supply the stock wanted. Still, we think that the demand upon us for stock of this kind rather increases than diminishes, and to meet it we have now the pleasure of announcing

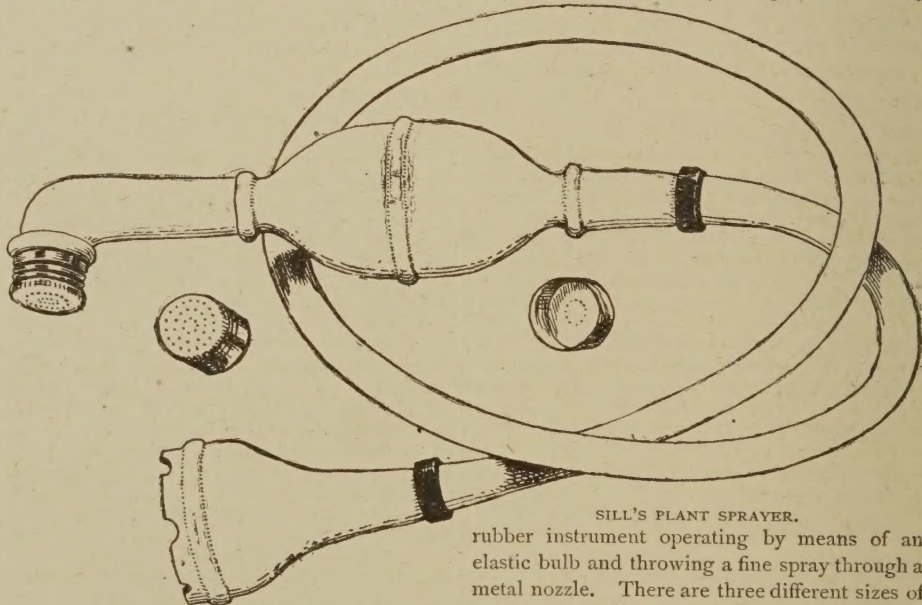
that we have made arrangements with one of the most reliable nurseries of Western New York, and which carries a heavy stock of both fruit and ornamental trees, to supply all demands upon us for trees of all kinds. In all cases only first class trees will be put up, and these will be packed in the best manner by experienced packers, so that they cannot fail to reach customers in perfect condition in any part of the country. We do not at present propose to issue any extended catalogue, but a condensed list with prices will be sent to any parties who may apply for the same. Our customers will find that they can procure both fruit and ornamental trees and shrubs in this manner much cheaper than they can buy them of traveling dealers, and they will know what they are getting; and this last consideration is far above that of the cost of the trees. We believe that we can do the public a valuable service in engaging in this trade in the manner stated. Our readers will understand that one of the expensive items in this trade is the freight, and that it costs far more to pay the

into the market without profit to themselves and to the detriment of prices for first class articles. In time the poor and unprofitable producers are starved out, but there appears to be an unending train of these chasers for the end of the horticultural rainbow.

A desirable business for intelligent and bright young men or women is that of stenography and typewriting. There is no place in the world where these branches are taught with such thoroughness and the pupils prepared to enter the many open situations as at W. G. Chaffee's Institute at Oswego, N. Y. The writer of this has had six stenographers from that school, all of whom were first-class in every particular, and so is competent to speak. His advertisement has appeared in our Magazine for the last year and it gives particulars.

A NEW PLANT SPRAYER.

A NEW style of sprayer for window plants and conservatories has been invented and sent out by Mr. Benj. F. Sill of Long Island City, N. Y. It is a very compact and handy



SILL'S PLANT SPRAYER.

rubber instrument operating by means of an elastic bulb and throwing a fine spray through a metal nozzle. There are three different sizes of nozzles easily attached and detached. With this instrument a thorough spraying can be given to a large number of plants in a short time and with a small amount of water, thus securing neatness with a perfect performance of the work. For the purpose it is designed we regard it as the best sprayer which has yet been offered to the public.

freight on twenty small orders than one large one aggregating the same amount as the twenty small ones. It is to the interest, therefore, of all parties that orders should be as large as possible to ship to any one place. Several neighbors can join together and purchase a quantity of trees and get them to better advantage than each could singly. The practice of clubbing together in a neighborhood and sending for what is wanted in one order is therefore desirable. Any particular information about stock will be cheerfully given by correspondence.

FORCING VEGETABLES.

The articles in this issue on the greenhouse culture of vegetables contain information that will be eagerly read by gardeners. There is no doubt that a certain amount of crops thus raised may be profitably marketed in our Northern cities. The raising of vegetables in this manner calls for skilled gardeners, and it will be a mistake for amateurs to think they can engage in the business profitably. Much of the depression in some lines of horticulture in this country is caused by inexperienced persons investing capital in lands, houses and accessories and undertaking the raising of crops which they imperfectly understand; the result is a mass of second or third rate produce which is thrown

**PIANOS AND ORGANS
GIVEN AWAY.**

\$170

This is no catch
penny offer.
We do exactly
as we say.

A FREE GIFT
of a piano or
organ given for a
slight service in
helping us introduce our instru-
ments. Mention paper. Catalogue free. Address
Alliance Piano & Organ Co., Washington, N. J.

\$35

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FAMILY RECORD

Lord's Prayer, Beatitudes, Life of Christ, 4 Beautiful Pictures, each 16x22, in colors, upon a back ground of Pure Gold. Price 50 cents each, but to any one who will return this advt. with order, 35c; 6 for \$1.25; 12 for \$2.00; 25 for \$4.00; 100 for \$13.50; 500 with watch and chain, \$65. All charges prepaid and all unsold goods taken back and money refunded. **STANDARD SUPPLY HOUSE, Chicago.**

HELP WANTED

Ladies needed to prepare local addresses for circulars advertising a NEW ART. Liberal pay and permanent home employment. Book of Beauty, FREE! Write **SYLVAN TOILET CO., Detroit, Mich.**

FILL YOUR OWN TEETH! Instructions free. Union Dental Co., Chicago Ill.

FLOWERS IN WINTERTON.

IT WAS one of those warm, sunny, thawing days when live people open doors and windows, enjoy the sunshine and the soft, balmy air. It was, perhaps, such a winter day that inspired that beautiful poem of Whittier, "A Dream of Summer."

At any rate the people in the little village of Winterton seemed to enjoy such a day. Tubs were put out to catch the water from the melting snow as it ran from the roofs of the houses; doors and windows were opened; clothing and bedding aired; every one seemed determined to get the full benefit of this pleasant day in the various ways which could be turned to household advantage.

Mrs. Staples, who lived in the house on the hill, had put out her scarlet cloak for an airing; this cloak was an heirloom, having belonged to Mrs. Staples' grandmother. It was made of scarlet broadcloth trimmed with plush of the same brilliant color. As it hung in the chamber window it could be seen all over the village, and it seemed to give additional brightness to this bright winter day.

There seemed to be something unusual going on in the afternoon, as all the ladies in the village were going into one house. Mrs. Plover, who lived in this house, with its neatly kept yard, and blooming geraniums in the windows, had invited the ladies to a quilting—an old fashioned quilting; a social entertainment more frequently enjoyed formerly than now, but one of the most cheery forms of neighborly intercourse. As the ladies gathered around the bed quilt in the sitting-room and commenced their work, it was hard to tell which worked the faster, their needles or their tongues; possibly there might have been considerable gossip that afternoon had not Jane Plover, the daughter of the house, introduced a subject which set gossip completely aside.

"Ladies," said she, "have you sent for your flower seeds yet?"

"Why, no!" replied two or three together; "it is too early; only the first of February."

"It is not too early to think about it," said Jane. "I like to arrange my outdoor work for summer in the winter, and to send for seeds early; there are some varieties which ought to be planted the first part of March, verbenas, for instance; so that I look over my collection of seeds and find out what I need."

"It makes no difference when you lay your plans or plant your seeds; your plants and flowers are always sure to be a success," said one of the ladies. "Just look at those geraniums; who of us has any like them?"

Jane did not heed this compliment but went on to say that she had a plan formed for them all. "I wish," said she, "that each one of us would choose a flower, and get a good assortment of the seeds of that flower."

"What do you mean," said they, "that we must cultivate such a flower and no other?"

"I mean that each choose one particular flower to grow next summer; that it be one of the favorites of the chooser; that we grow it in a conspicuous place and bring it to the highest state of perfection."

"What shall we do with all our other flower seeds?"

"Put them, all the odds and ends of our seeds, into a variety bed. The vegetable garden is a good place for such a bed, and it will brighten

up the garden wonderfully. Make such beds of generous size, so as to have plenty of flowers for cutting.

The ladies all looked surprised, for the idea advanced by Jane was a new and novel one, but the plan was discussed thoroughly that afternoon and when the tea bell rang every lady had decided to try this plan for the coming summer.

That evening when the ladies had returned to their homes, they commenced the study of their catalogues as some of them had never done before, and soon afterwards there was a large order for seeds sent from Winterton.

The spring came, and afterwards the summer. Could we have looked upon the flower gardens of Winterton that season we should have had a feast for our eyes.

Jane Plover chose the dianthus. There was a large circular bed in the center of which she planted a white carnation, tying it to a neat trellis; around the carnation were planted Double Imperial pinks, blood red; next came Imperial pinks, double white; while around the border were planted dwarf varieties of the annual pinks. Another bed was planted with Heddewigii and Laciniatus bordered with the Diadem pink. There were no *richer colored* flowers in Winterton than these beds of dianthus.

Mrs. Perkins had the antirrhinum. She had two narrow flower borders on each side of the path which led to the front door; there were a few stunted perennials in them, but they were mostly grown up to grass. She was an elderly woman and had not cultivated flowers for years, but she caught the flower fever at Mrs. Plover's the afternoon of the quilting. Mr. Perkins spaded up the borders, putting a generous load of manure on them; the little plants of antirrhinum, which had been growing in the kitchen window, were transplanted and placed at intervals among the perennials. These borders made a most brilliant appearance that summer and what was still better, they lived through the winter and made a finer display the next season. There is no finer flower for mixed beds and borders than the antirrhinum.

Mrs. Mercer had never had flowers because her yard was shaded by cherry trees; Jane Plover persuaded her to try pansies for one season; she did so, and the result was a wonder. No such pansies had ever been seen in that village as grew and bloomed in the low, shaded yard of the Mercer home with its moist soil, which was further enriched with well rotted cow manure. One variety, the light blue, was especially beautiful.

Mary Reed, one of the young ladies, had most beautiful beds of verbenas. The seeds were planted the first of March in boxes in the kitchen window, and transplanted when small into larger ones; they were put into the beds in May and commenced blooming in July. They were watered every wash day with soap suds; this is an excellent fertilizer for verbenas and is good for all kinds of flowers; no one who

cultivates flowers should throw away soap suds. Another thing which made the verbenas a success, Mary was careful to keep the seed vessels picked off; in this way the blooming season was prolonged. A bouquet of verbenas from these beds was cut for a sick friend as late as November, and these grew in the Northern States.

Mrs. Brown filled her beds with Ten-weeks-stock. As many people fail in getting double flowers from the stock, we will give the reader the benefit of Mrs. Brown's experience. The seeds were planted but a few days before the time to put the plants in the open ground; as soon as the tiny second leaves appeared they were transplanted into the beds and the weeds kept carefully out. The beds were well enriched and were given an abundance of water all through the season. There were very few single flowers in the whole collection. One bed had white, blue and canary yellow; the effect was very fine.

Only one other garden will be mentioned and that is Mrs. Arnold's, whose choice was the petunia, because, as she said, it "was such an accommodating flower;" and truly, no other flower will accommodate itself to any situation better than the petunia. Mrs. Arnold had a circular bed filled with the small-flowered varieties of petunia. It was a blaze of brilliancy all summer. She had the large-flowered petunia and the double varieties; some in beds, some as single plants, some in window boxes, vases and stumps. A stump filled with the Countess of Ellesmere was covered with hundreds of flowers all summer. This stump made a very showy appearance from the roadside.

There are others that might be mentioned; perhaps at some future time something may be said of some of the flowers which were put into the variety beds and which were so useful for cutting.

MRS. E. B. DIMOCK.

STATE OF OHIO, CITY OF TOLEDO, } ss.
LUCAS COUNTY,

FRANK J. CHENEY makes oath that he is the senior partner of the firm of F. J. CHENEY & Co., doing business in the City of Toledo, County and State aforesaid, and that said firm will pay the sum of ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS for each and every case of CATARRH that cannot be cured by the use of HALL'S CATARRH CURE.

Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence, this 6th day of December, A. D. 1886.

A. W. GLEASON,

SEAL

Notary Public.

Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally and acts directly on the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. Send for testimonials, free.

F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O.
Sold by Druggists, 75c.

\$1.22 ONE DOLLAR

and twenty-two cents buys a regular \$30.00 Gold Filled Watch EXAMINATION FREE.

STRANGE as it may seem this is a genuine gold filled stem wind hunting case, either gent's or ladies size, beautifully engraved by hand and guaranteed to wear for 20 years. The movement is a very finest stem wind, jeweled nickel American, warranted an accurate time-keeper. WE DON'T WANT A CENT in advance. Cut this advertisement out and send to us if you want the watch sent to your nearest express office C. O. D. subject to examination, if found satisfactory pay the agent \$1.22, otherwise DON'T PAY A CENT. To advertise—we sell more watches and cheaper than any other house on earth. This watch retails for \$30.00 the world over. Dealers are now set crazy at our most wonderful offer. Order to-day. Costs nothing to order, nothing to examine. Watch costs \$1.22.

A. C. ROEBUCK CORPORATION, (Paid up capital, \$75,000.) Minneapolis, Minn.
Send diamond or watch catalogue free.



Corn, Vick's Golden Nugget.

Introduced by us as a novelty last year. Its earliness and bright golden color are remarkable. Very tender and sweet, with an excellent rich flavor. Ears medium size, twelve-rowed and well filled. Every lover of good corn should have a package. Price per quart 60c.; pint 25c.; package 15c.

Don't fail to read about the \$2000 cash prize in Vick's Floral Guide, 1893. **JAMES VICK'S SONS, Rochester, N. Y.**



JACK ASHORE.

STRAWBERRIES and FINE FRUIT.

Do you intend planting any Strawberries, Raspberries, Blackberries or other Small fruit plants, Roses or Novel-ties? Send for my 60-page catalogue and report on straw-berries, free. It will pay you. Address

D. BRANDT, Box 301, BREMEN, OHIO.

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SHORTHAND BY MAIL or personally. 3 TRIAL LESSONS FREE, by mentioning this Mag. Sim-plest and best system, acquired in 3 months. Situations secured graduates of Business, Telegraph, or Shorthand Depts. R. R. fare paid. Kansas City Business University, Kansas City, Mo.

A WORLD'S FAIR Souvenir Coin (coined by the Government) sent by registered mail, delivery guaran-teed, and our **Lithograph Portfolio**, containing Ex-position Views in colors, with descriptive text, handsomely printed in English, French, or German. Both for \$1.65. STATE EDITION DESIRED.

S. S. WASSON & CO., 87-93 S. Jefferson St., Chicago.

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FREE A POCKET PENCIL—IMT. GOLD PEN, 450 SCRAP PICTURES, RIDDLES AND VERSES 1 GAME OF HAPPY-GO-LUCKY, SIZE 16x18, AND AGENT'S FULL CARD OUTFIT, sent 2c. for postage. KING CARD CO., NORTH BAY, CONN.

THE Story of Southern California, the beauty spot of America, told by its leading newspaper in 28 pages. COLUMBIAN NUMBER, 100 fine illustrations. A mine of in-formation for home seekers in the most attractive section of the Union. 10 cents a copy. Weekly \$1.30 a year 624 pp. Address Times, Los Angeles, Cal.

CUT THIS OUT and send with your name and express office address and I will send you free to examine and wear, a **SOLID GOLD** finished watch that you can sell for \$38.00. If it suits, you send \$6.48; if not, return to me. Mention whether Ladies' or Gents' size is desired. Address your order at once to W. S. SIMPSON, 37 College Place, New York.

SELF-THREADING Sewing Needles. Weak-sighted or blind can thread them. Finest silver spring steel. One style threads on end, other on side. Sample paper of either kind by mail 10c. 2 for 15c. 5 for 25c. 12 for 60c. Money easily made selling them. C. E. MARSHALL, LOCKPORT, N. Y.

\$20 A WEEK Ladies receive who write for us at home. Reply with addressed stamped envelope. Woman's Co-Operative Toilet Co., South Bend, Ind.

TEAS Ladies Delight in getting up club or-ders, from \$1 to \$100, from friends in their own locality, and receive valuable premi-ums. Send 25c. to pay postage on our mammoth outfit of samples. Write at once and be the first in the field. CATALOGUE FREE.

IMPERIAL TEA CO., Cadiz, O.

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Dainty Desserts for Dainty People.

A little cook book just out, filled with Choice Recipes. Send 2 ct. Stamp for one to Knox's Sparkling Gelatine Works, Johnstown, N. Y.

HOLD-OUTS RANGING FROM \$10 TO \$200. AT PRICES CUT IN TWO. SEND FOR DESCRIPTION AND PARTICULARS. G. HENRY & CO., 278 Ogden Avenue, CHICAGO, ILL.

PERSONAL BEAUTY How to acquire and retain it. How to remove Pimples, Wrinkles, Freckles and Superfluous Hair; to Increase or Reduce Flesh; to Color the Hair and Beautify the complexion. A book of interest to every lady. Mailed (sealed) for 10 cents. MADAME LAUTIER, 124 W. 23d St., N. Y. City.

When writing to advertisers, mention Vick's Magazine.

WOODLICE ABOUT MUSHROOMS.

IN AN article on mushrooms in *British Gar-den* the following advice is given about woodlice: "The greatest nuisance to a mush-room grower is the presence of woodlice. This is especially the case when mushrooms are grown in wooden sheds. The best way to catch them is to take advantage of their propensities. They like old and decaying wood. Well, give it to them, but don't let them have it. Put some old decayed boards by the sides of the mushroom bed, and cover them up with some litter. In the morning uncover the wood by taking off the litter. The woodlice will be all over the boards. Take the boards and shake them smartly over some boiling water. After this has been done a few mornings the woodlice will be gone, and the mushrooms will look as though they almost knew it, so healthy will be their appearance."

TEMPERATURE FOR THE GROWTH OF MUSH-ROOMS.—The mushroom in American pastures seldom starts into growth before the end of Au-gust or September, when the temperature of the soil has reached about 60° degrees,—hence this is taken as the temperature which the cultivator of the mushroom ought to endeavor to maintain in order to successfully grow this vegetable. A very experienced cultivator, however, states that he has found this temperature to be rather too high in growing the mushrooms in houses pre-pared for the purpose. He finds that he has much better success with an even temperature of 55 than 60 degrees.—*Mechanics' Monthly for December.*

Croup Stripped of its Terror.

Schiffmann's Asthma Cure promptly relieves the most violent attack. Mothers of croupy children will find it handy when needed. Trial package free of druggists or by mail. Dr. R. Schiffmann, St. Paul, Minn.

Pearline is better adapted for cleansing around the house than any known article. It is more convenient than anything ever discovered, and it is as suitable for the most delicate lace or the finest linen, as for the dirtiest horse-blanket, and it will make either as "clean as a whistle" in short order. All grocers sell it, and if the reader don't know of it she may take our word for it.—*Troy N. Y. Press*

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DO YOU KNOW

That the PERFECTION

FLOUR BIN & SIEVE

Combines Sack or Barrel, Sifter Pan and Scoop, preserves flour from mould and mustiness.

Keeps out dust, vermin, etc. YOU OUGHT TO HAVE ONE. Ask our agent or your dealer for them, if they cannot supply you, write to us Satisfaction Guaranteed.

Prices: 25 lbs. \$2.50 AGENTS to hold 50 lbs. \$3.00 100 lbs. \$4.00 WANTED

SHERMAN & BUTLER, 26&28 W Lake St., B. 30, Chicago, Ill.

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850,000 GRAPE VINES

100 Varieties. Also Small Fruits, Trees, &c. Best rooted stock. Genuine, cheap. 2 sample vines mailed for 10c. Descriptive price list free. LEWIS ROESCH, Fredonia, N. Y.

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ICURE FITS!

When I say cure I do not mean merely to stop them for a time and then have them return again. I mean a radical cure. I have made the disease of FITS, EPILEPSY, or FALLING SICKNESS a life-long study. I warrant my remedy to cure the worst cases. Because others have failed is no reason for not now receiving a cure. Send at once for a treatise and a Free Bottle of my infal-lible remedy. Give Express and Post Office.

H. G. ROOT, M-C, 183 Pearl St., N. Y.

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18K Rolled Gold Diamond Ring Free. A Best rolled gold ring, will wear for years. Stone, an Egyptian Diamond that puzzles experts to detect. Send this advertisement and 14 cents with string attached, and we will send this elegant \$2.00 ring and new 64 page catalogue of jewelry, watches and novelties. DIXON WATCH CO., Chicago, Ill.

PERSONAL.—The beauty of the Romans was largely due to Anointings, and Dr. O. P. Brown's celebrated **TISSUE BUILDER**, made from a Roman Oil Formula, has a wonderful effect on the skin, acting as a tonic. It feeds the tissues, fills up wrinkles, plumps the figure, beautifies the complexion and hands. Most skins, hungry for nourishment, absorb it as thirsty plants do water. Send 10 cents for sample and Lady's paper illustrating Seven Ages of Woman's Life. Address, 47 Grand St., Jersey City, N. J.

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TYPEWRITERS.

Unprejudiced advice given. All makes half-price. Shipped anywhere for examination. Exchanging a Specialty. Monthly payments. 52-page cat. free. TYPEWRITER 31 Broadway, New York. HEADQUARTERS, 186 Monroe St., Chicago.

FREE 1000 WATCHES

To agents who will introduce our Watches and Jewelry we will give a Watch FREE. Send your address and 2-cent stamp and be convinced.

Wm. Williams, 121 S. Halsted St. Chicago, Ill



LADIES! If you desire a trans-parent, CLEAR, FRESH complexion, FREE from blotch, blemish, roughness, coarseness, redness, freckles or pimples use DR. CAMPBELL'S SAFE ARSENIC COMPLEXION WAFERS. These wonderful wafers have the effect of enlarging, invigorating, or filling out any shrunken, shrivelled or undeveloped parts. Price, by mail, \$1, 6 Boxes, \$5. Depot, 218 6th Ave., New York, and all Druggists.

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Silk! Satin and Plush Remnants for crazy patch work. 25 pretty pieces, all sizes, all colors only 10c., 3 lots and complete manual of fancy work, knitting, crochet-etc., only 25 cts. WESTERN SUPPLY CO., St. Louis, Mo.

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SHORTHAND

Writing thoroughly taught Situations procured all pupils when competent. Send for circular. W. G. CHAFFEE, Oswego, N. Y.

Book Keeping, Penmanship and Spanish also taught.

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MY WIFE SAYS SHE CANNOT SEW HOW YOU DO IT FOR THE MONEY. \$12 Buys a \$65.00 Improved Oxford Singer Sewing Machine; perfect working reliable, finely finished, adapted to light and heavy work, with a complete set of the latest improved attachments free. Each machine guaranteed for 5 years. Buy direct from our factory, and save dealers and agents profit. Send for FREE CATALOGUE. OXFORD MFG. COMPANY, DEPT 40, CHICAGO, ILL.

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THIS SOLID GOLD GENUINE DIAMOND RING FREE to any girl who will do a few hours work showing our new goods to their friends. Send No Money.

I. M. ASSOCIATION, 269 Dearborn St. Chicago, Ill

When writing to advertisers, mention Vick's Magazine.

From \$35

WE DO IT EVERY TIME! Save you from \$50 to \$200

HOW DO WE DO IT?

We sell from our factory at wholesale prices direct to the public, saving them all agents' and dealers' exorbitant profits. We are doing a mar-velous business. One thousand Pianos and Organs per month. **WONDERFUL, but true!** To prove it, send for our new catalogue, illustrated in colors. It is **FREE** to any address. Examine it, and you will see that we are selling

ORGANS and PIANOS For CASH and on EASY PAYMENTS

at prices that are simply **WONDERFULLY LOW**. We have now some of the finest styles of Organs and Pianos ever man-ufactured. Our new catalogue shows all the latest. Our twenty-sixth annual special offers are now ready. We have bargains in all styles and at all prices. **Organs from \$35. Pianos from \$175, for cash or on easy payment.** We have the largest direct trade in the world. We have a larger factory and employ more men than any firm doing a direct business. **You can visit our factory FREE if you live within 200 miles of us.**

... NOTE ...

We are absolutely responsible for all our contracts.

REFERENCES: First National Bank, and all the great Com-mercial Agencies.

From \$175

NO SATISFACTION, NO PAY! All instruments shipped on free trial warranted for ten years.

WRITE FOR CATALOGUE AT ONCE TO

CORNISH & Co.

Old Established & Reliable Washington, NEW JERSEY.

MAGGIE MURPHY POTATO.

THE "Maggie Murphy" is colored a delicate pink. The good quality, large yield and strong vigorous growth of this potato will, we think, make it a favorite. This new variety has been cultivated for several years by its originator. In the Floral Guide for 1893 full particulars will be found of prizes which are offered for the "Maggie Murphy" and the new "American Wonder," introduced last year.

In a talk a few days since with Mr. Langdon Wall, who raised the crop of "Maggie Murphys," he said that in an experience of twenty years testing potatoes he had never seen one which had such strength and vitality. The vines stayed green for over a month after all others in Western New York had blighted. He prophesies that it will be the leader.

PACKING APPLES.—A correspondent of a late number of *British Gardening* says that the imported American apples appear badly damaged after a barrel has been opened a few days, and that immediate complaint would be made if British fruit-growers sent apples to market so bruised. "If these foreign apples are sold quick," he says, "well and good, but otherwise there is loss, even if bought in cheap." He suggests that a little clean straw, at least, should be put in the bottom, at the sides and over the top. Would this be an improvement?

The Famous D. & C. Roses

are grown on their own roots, and are everywhere recognized as far better than the other kinds. We send them everywhere safely by mail, prepaid.

We give on request our "Guide to Rose Culture," which clearly describes the largest stock of Roses in the world, and which will enable anyone to repeat our success with flowers. We also publish "Success with Flowers," a monthly magazine which is a welcome guest in 50,000 flower-lovers' homes. A sample copy of this will come with the Guide if you send your address now.

The Dingee & Conard Co.,
Rose Growers and Seedsmen. West Grove, Pa.

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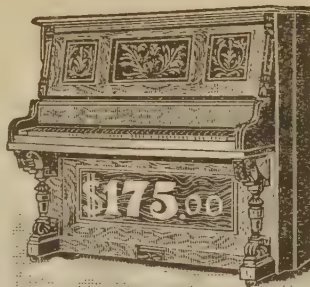
FREE TO ALL:

Our New Illustrated Catalogue of PLANTS, ROSES, BULBS, VINES, SHRUBS, ORNAMENTAL TREES, SMALL FRUITS, GRAPE VINES, SEEDS, etc., will be mailed FREE to all applicants. 100 pages. Most complete Plant Catalogue published. Satisfaction Guaranteed. 20 ROSE HOUSES, 45 GREENHOUSES, 30 acres NURSERIES.

Address

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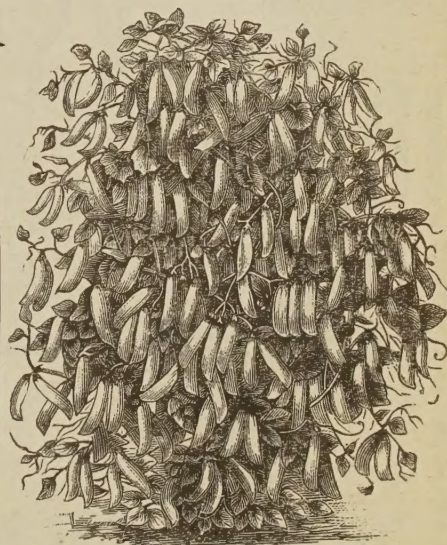
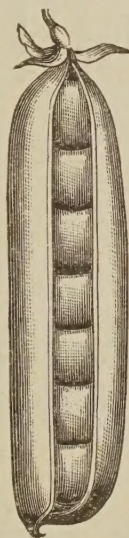
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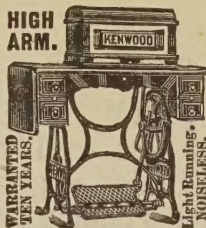
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LETTUCE.—We can cut lettuces from the open ground till the end of November, but it is well to have plenty in frames. Our cold frames are now filled with them. If you coddle them hard frost will hurt them, but if you ventilate them freely in mild weather, and keep them clean and the ground about them stirred and drish on the surface but moist underneath you can have nice hardy lettuces all winter. Of course our tenderest lettuces are grown in greenhouses. As a market crop the produce from the South has driven the cold frame lettuces out of our metropolitan markets in winter. To amend this, however, the market gardeners have built villages of greenhouses for lettuces, spinach, radishes, mushrooms, rhubarb, and the like, and now the finest lettuces in the New York market in the winter time are grown in greenhouses and within twenty-five miles of the city, and there is money in it.—*Gardening.*

DECEMBER MARKETS.—Among other articles in the New York market the 15th of December are fresh string beans from Florida; tomatoes from forcing houses in Boston which are selling at one dollar a pound; chicory from Louisiana retailing at twenty cents a head; strawberries from California at \$1.75 a quart, or what is called a quart; and hothouse grapes from England, Black Hamburgs which bring \$2.50 a pound. Would these grapes bring the same price if raised in this country? It might be necessary to label them "English imported."

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